

## Message Text

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ACTION OES-04

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 IO-10 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 AID-05

AGR-05 OIC-02 RSC-01 EUR-12 CEQ-01 CIAE-00 COA-01

DODE-00 EPA-01 INR-07 L-02 NSF-01 NSC-05 NSAE-00

PM-03 SS-15 SP-02 FEA-01 PA-01 PRS-01 USIA-06 /100 W

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R 301409Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1171

INFO USMISSION GENEVA

USMISSION USUN

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: SENV, OCON, UNEP

SUBJECT: U.S. VIEWS ON UNEP CONVENED MEETINGS

REF: STATE 16407; NAIROBI 0380

1. EMBASSY DISCUSSED STATE REFTTEL WITH FUND DIRECTOR BERTHOUD, WHO SAID UNEP, LIKE OTHER UN AGENCIES, USES FOLLOWING CRITERIA TO DETERMINE LEVEL AND TYPE OF MEETINGS IN CASES WHERE STATUS NOT ALREADY PREDETERMINED BY GC DECISIONS:

A) INTERGOVERNMENTAL FORMAT USED ONLY WHEN RESULTS OF MEETING DIRECTLY RELATED TO, AND READY FOR, GOVERNMENTAL ACTIONS.

B) GOVERNMENT NOMINATED EXPERTS USED WHEN RESULTS EXPECTED TO BE CLOSE TO, BUT NOT FULLY READY FOR, GOVERNMENTAL ACTION AND DISCUSSIONS STILL TOO TECHNICAL FOR POLITICAL DELEGATES.

UNEP FREQUENTLY USES GOVERNMENTAL EXPERTS FORMAT TO ENCOURAGE LDC MEMBERS TO SEND PEOPLE MOST DIRECTLY INVOLVED WITH SUBJECT RATHER THAN DIPLOMATS STATIONED NEAREST MEETING SITE.

C) PRIVATE EXPERTS USED WHEN UNEP WANTS ADVICE ON SUBJECT IN WHICH GOVERNMENTAL ACTION IS EITHER NOT CONTEMPLATED OR

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STILL FAR OFF.

2. BERTHOUD APPRECIATED POINT OF VIEW EXPRESSED IN PARA 2  
STATE REFTEL AND SUGGESTED AMBASSADOR WRITE STRONG ALONG THESE  
LINES, A SUGGESTION WHICH EMBASSY PLANNING TO FOLLOW-UP.

3. EMBASSY HAS CHECKED STATUS OF SPECIFIC MEETINGS CITED PARA 3  
STATE REFTEL WITH UNEP DIVISIONS DIRECTLY CONCERNED, WITH  
FOLLOWING RESULTS:

- A) FEB. 26 - MARCH 4 TEHRAN MEETING, ORIGINALLY CONCEIVED AS  
REVIEW OF WHAT IS BEING ACCOMPLISHED OR PLANNED BY COUNTRIES  
WITHIN AFRICAN-MIDDLE EASTERN ARID BELT WITH PARTICIPATION  
THEREFORE LIMITED TO COUNTRIES IN THAT BELT, HAS NOW BEEN  
BROADENED AT REQUEST OF GOVT. OF IRAN TO INCLUDE COUNTRIES  
WITH ARID LAND EXPERTISE OUTSIDE OF AREA, INCLUDING U.S.,  
WHICH WILL BE ASKED TO NOMINATE ONE OR TWO EXPERTS. (FULL  
DETAILS ON U.S. PARTICIPATION THIS MEETING BEING SENT  
SEPTTEL.) AS SEEN BY UNEP, GOAL OF TEHRAN MEETING IS TO  
FACILITATE RESEARCH, TRAINING AND FIELD WORK IN AREA THROUGH  
AN EXCHANGE BETWEEN COUNTRIES WITH SIMILAR PROBLEMS. UNEP  
ENVISAGES POSSIBLE COOPERATIVE PROGRAMS INVOLVING IRAN,  
PAKISTAN AND TURKEY ON ONE HAND AND EGYPT AND SUDAN ON OTHER.
- B) UNEP APPARENTLY BROUGHT IN LATE ON PLANNING FOR ILCA  
BAMAKO MEETING ON RANGELAND VEGETATION AND SFAX SEMINAR ON  
METHODOLOGY FOR INVENTORYING NATURAL RESOURCES FOR DEVELOP-  
MENT OF ARID ZONES. AS RESULT, IT HAS PLAYED LITTLE OR NO  
ROLE IN CHOICE OF INDIVIDUAL EXPERTS AND WILL ITSELF BE  
REPRESENTED AT BAMAKO BY ONLY ONE OBSERVER (LESLIE BROWN).  
UNEP WOULD HAVE PREFERRED TO COMBINE THESE TWO MEETINGS,  
WHICH HAVE SIMILAR GOAL OF DEVELOPING COMMON METHODOLOGY  
FOR MAPPING RESOURCES AND TRAINING EXPERTS IN THESE ARID  
AREAS OF AFRICA.
- C) AS NOTED NAIROBI REFTEL, CHOICE OF U.S. EXPERT FOR MARCH  
4-15 MEETING ON ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT IN LAXENBURG,  
AUSTRIA MADE BY IIASA VIENNA. EMBASSY NOW UNDERSTANDS THAT  
PROF. KNEESE UNAVAILABLE. SUBSTITUTE WILL BE PROF.  
BOWER, ALSO FROM RESOURCES OF THE FUTURE. PURPOSE OF  
LAXENBURG MEETING IS TO SUGGEST POSSIBLE UNEP PROGRAM  
ACTIVITIES IN AREA OF ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT. RESULTS  
OF MEETING WILL BE SUMMARIZED FOR GC-III'S USE IN FORMU-  
LATING EVENTUAL GOALS.

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- D) DETAILS GILQKOPAPER SEMINAR GIVEN IN NAIROBI 652.
- Z4. EMBASSY BELIEVES CURRENT CONFUSION OVER MEETINGS STEMS FROM  
UNEP'S LAST-MINUTE ATTEMPTS TO COVER ADDITIONAL SUBJECTS FOR  
GC-III, POOR ORGANIZATION OF UNEP'S OFFICE OF EXTERNAL RELATIONS  
AND, IN CASE OF ARID ZONES, THE NEED TO ADVANCE UNEP'S  
PREVIOUS SCHEDULE IN ORDER TO PREPARE FOR 1977 INTERNATIONAL  
CONFERENCE ON DESERTIFICATION. EMBASSY WILL CONTINUE TO SEEK  
WAYS TO PROVIDE DEPARTMENT WITH ACCURATE AND DETAILED INFORMATION

ON FORTHCOMING MEETINGS AS FAR IN ADVANCE AS POSSIBLE, BUT AT  
MOMENT THIS NOT PROVING EASY TO DO.  
MARSHALL

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## Message Attributes

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